

chapter (other than section 2009ee-1(b) of this title).

(Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, § 6304, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 424.)

#### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 2009ee-1 of this title.

### CHAPTER 51—FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Sec.		Sec.	
2011.	Congressional declaration of policy.		
2012.	Definitions.		
2012a.	Publicly operated community health centers.		
2013.	Establishment of program.		
	(a) Use of coupons; redeemability.		(l) Custodial parent's cooperation with child support agencies.
	(b) Distribution of federally donated foods.		(m) Noncustodial parent's cooperation with child support agencies.
	(c) Regulations; transmittal of copy of regulations to Congressional committees prior to issuance.		(n) Disqualification for child support arrears.
2014.	Eligible households.	2016.	(o) Work requirement.
	(a) Income and other financial resources as substantial limiting factors in obtaining more nutritious diet; recipients under Social Security Act.		Issuance and use of coupons.
	(b) Eligibility standards.		(a) Printing.
	(c) Gross income standard.		(b) Approved food stores; receipt of cash in change for coupons used to purchase food.
	(d) Income excluded in computing household income.		(c) Design of coupons.
	(e) Deductions from income.		(d) Coupon level inventories; monitoring; monthly operations report.
	(f) Calculation of household income; prospective or retrospective accounting basis; consistency.		(e) Delivery and control procedures.
	(g) Allowable financial resources which eligible household may own.		(f) State issuance liability.
	(h) Temporary emergency standards of eligibility; Food Stamp Disaster Task Force; direct assistance to State and local officials.		(g) Alternative system or documents; costs.
	(i) Attribution of income and resources to sponsored aliens; coverage, computations, etc.		(h) Staggered issuance procedures.
	(j) Resource exemption for otherwise exempt households.		(i) Electronic benefit transfers.
	(k) Assistance to third parties included; educational benefits; exceptions.	2017.	(j) State option to issue benefits to certain individuals made ineligible by welfare reform.
	(l) Earnings to participants of on-the-job training programs; exception.		(k) Interoperability and portability of electronic benefit transfer transactions.
	(m) Simplified calculation of income for self-employed.		Value of allotment.
	(n) State options to simplify determination of child support payments.		(a) Calculation.
2015.	Eligibility disqualifications.		(b) Benefits not deemed income or resources for certain purposes.
	(a) Additional specific conditions rendering individuals ineligible.		(c) First month benefits prorated.
	(b) Fraud and misrepresentation; disqualification penalties; ineligibility period; applicable procedures.		(d) Reduction of public assistance benefits.
	(c) Refusal to provide necessary information.		(e) Allotments for households residing in centers.
	(d) Conditions of participation.		(f) Alternative procedures for residents of certain group facilities.
	(e) Students.	2018.	Approval of retail food stores and wholesale food concerns.
	(f) Aliens.		(a) Applications; qualifications; certificate of approval; periodic reauthorization.
	(g) Residents of States which provide State supplementary payments.		(b) Effective and efficient operation of program; effect of disqualification; posting of bond.
	(h) Transfer of assets to qualify.		(c) Information submitted by applicants; safeguards; disclosure to and use by State agencies.
	(i) Comparable treatment for disqualification.		(d) Hearing upon failure of applicant to receive approval; waiting period for new application.
	(j) Disqualification for receipt of multiple food stamp benefits.		(e) Reporting of abuses by public.
	(k) Disqualification of fleeing felons.		(f) Limitation on participation of household-to-house trade routes.
		2019.	Redemption of coupons.
		2020.	Administration.
			(a) State responsibility; records, inspection, and audit.
			(b) Correction of improper denials and underissuances.
			(c) Discrimination prohibited.
			(d) Plan of operation by State agency; approval by Secretary; Indians.
			(e) Requisites of State plan of operation.
			(f) Nutrition education.
			(g) State noncompliance; correction of failures.
			(h) Deposit by State to cover fraudulently or negligently issued coupons.
			(i) Application and denial procedures.
			(j) Notice of availability of benefits and applications; revision of memorandum of understanding.
			(k) Use of post offices.
			(l) Special financial audit review of high participation States.
			(m) Alaskan fee agents; use and services.

Sec.		Sec.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(n) Verification by State agencies.</li> <li>(o) Data processing systems; model plan; comprehensive automation and computerization; State plans; evaluation and report to Congress; corrective measures by State; time for implementation.</li> <li>(p) State verification option.</li> <li>(q) Denial of food stamps for prisoners.</li> <li>(r) Denial of food stamps for deceased individuals.</li> <li>(s) Transitional benefits option.</li> <li>(t) Grants for simple application and eligibility determination systems and improved access to benefits.</li> </ul>	2026.	Research, demonstration, and evaluations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Contracts or grants; issuance of aggregate allotments.</li> <li>(b) Pilot projects.</li> <li>(c) Evaluation measures; pilot programs for nutritional monitoring.</li> <li>(d) Employment initiatives program.</li> <li>(e) Study and report to Congressional committees of effect of reduction of benefits.</li> <li>(f) Demonstration projects for development and use of intelligent computer benefit cards to pay food stamp benefits.</li> <li>(g) Study of effectiveness of food stamp employment and training program.</li> <li>(h) Demonstration projects for vehicle exclusion limits.</li> <li>(i) Testing resource accumulation.</li> <li>(j) Demonstration projects directed at food coupon trafficking.</li> </ul>
2021.	Civil money penalties and disqualification of retail food stores and wholesale food concerns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Disqualification or civil penalty.</li> <li>(b) Period of disqualification.</li> <li>(c) Review.</li> <li>(d) Bonds.</li> <li>(e) Transfer of ownership; penalty in lieu of disqualification period; fines for acceptance of loose coupons; judicial action to recover penalty or fine.</li> <li>(f) Fines for unauthorized third parties that accept food stamps.</li> <li>(g) Disqualification of retailers who are disqualified under WIC program.</li> </ul>	2027.	Appropriations and allotments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Authorization of allotments; monthly reports of expenditures to Congressional committees; restriction on use of funds; nutrition education improvements.</li> <li>(b) Limitation of value of allotments; reduction of allotments.</li> <li>(c) Manner of reducing allotments.</li> <li>(d) Requisite action by Secretary to reduce allotments; statement to Congressional committees.</li> <li>(e) Disposition of funds collected pursuant to claims.</li> <li>(f) Transfer of funds.</li> </ul>
2022.	Disposition of claims. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) General authority of the Secretary.</li> <li>(b) Collection of overissuances.</li> <li>(c) Food stamp intercept of unemployment benefits.</li> <li>(d) Recovery of overissuance of coupons.</li> </ul>	2028.	Consolidated block grants for Puerto Rico and American Samoa. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Payments to governmental entities.</li> <li>(b) Plan for provision of assistance; approval; noncompliance.</li> <li>(c) Review; technical assistance.</li> <li>(d) Penalty for violations.</li> </ul>
2023.	Administrative and judicial review; restoration of rights.	2029.	Workfare. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Program plan; guidelines; compliance.</li> <li>(b) Exempt household members.</li> <li>(c) Valuation or duration of work.</li> <li>(d) Nature, conditions, and costs of work.</li> <li>(e) Job search period.</li> <li>(f) Disqualification.</li> <li>(g) Payment of administrative expenses.</li> </ul>
2024.	Violations and enforcement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Coupon redemption.</li> <li>(b) Unauthorized use, transfer, acquisition, alteration, or possession of coupons or authorization cards; restitution by convicted individuals.</li> <li>(c) Presentation for payment or redemption of coupons that have been illegally received, transferred, or used.</li> <li>(d) Coupons as obligations of the United States.</li> <li>(e) Failure to provide monthly operations report; violation of regulations; delivery and control procedures.</li> <li>(f) Liability for financial losses involved in acceptance, storage, and issuance of coupons.</li> <li>(g) Forfeiture of property involved in illegal food stamp transactions.</li> <li>(h) Criminal forfeiture.</li> </ul>	2030.	Washington Family Independence Demonstration Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) In general.</li> <li>(b) Nature of Project.</li> <li>(c) Funding.</li> <li>(d) Project application.</li> <li>(e) Waiver.</li> <li>(f) Construction.</li> <li>(g) Project audits.</li> <li>(h) Evaluation.</li> </ul>
2025.	Administrative cost-sharing and quality control. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Administrative costs.</li> <li>(b) Work supplementation or support program.</li> <li>(c) Quality control system.</li> <li>(d) Bonuses for States that demonstrate high or most improved performance.</li> <li>(e) Use of social security account numbers; access to information.</li> <li>(f) Payment of certain legal fees.</li> <li>(g) Cost sharing for computerization.</li> <li>(h) Funding of employment and training programs.</li> <li>(i) Geographical error-prone profiles.</li> <li>(j) Training materials regarding certification of farming households.</li> <li>(k) Reductions in payments for administrative costs.</li> </ul>	2031.	Food stamp portion of Minnesota Family Investment Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) In general.</li> <li>(b) Required terms and conditions of Project.</li> <li>(c) Additional terms and conditions of Project.</li> <li>(d) Funding.</li> <li>(e) Waiver.</li> <li>(f) Project audits.</li> <li>(g) Construction.</li> <li>(h) Quality control.</li> <li>(i) Evaluation.</li> <li>(j) Definitions.</li> </ul>
		2032.	Automated data processing and information retrieval systems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Standards and procedures for reviews.</li> </ul>

- Sec. (b) Standards for approval of systems.  
(c) Report.
2033. Repealed.
2034. Assistance for community food projects.  
(a) “Community food projects” defined.  
(b) Authority to provide assistance.  
(c) Eligible entities.  
(d) Preference for certain projects.  
(e) Matching funds requirements.  
(f) Term of grant.  
(g) Technical assistance and related information.  
(h) Innovative programs for addressing common community problems.
2035. Simplified Food Stamp Program.  
(a) “Federal costs” defined.  
(b) Election.  
(c) Operation of Program.  
(d) Approval of Program.  
(e) Increased Federal costs.  
(f) Rules and procedures.
2036. Availability of commodities for emergency food assistance program.  
(a) Purchase of commodities.  
(b) Basis for commodity purchases.

#### CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in sections 2270, 3175a, 3175b of this title; title 8 sections 1255a, 1612, 1613, 1631; title 21 section 862a; title 26 sections 32, 51, 6103, 6109; title 29 sections 49b, 2801; title 42 sections 405, 503, 603, 608, 608a, 1314a, 1320b–7, 1383, 1437f, 1758, 1766, 1786, 3012, 3056g, 3058e, 5179, 8622, 8624, 9858i; title 43 section 1626; title 48 section 1841.

#### § 2011. Congressional declaration of policy

It is declared to be the policy of Congress, in order to promote the general welfare, to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation’s population by raising levels of nutrition among low-income households. Congress finds that the limited food purchasing power of low-income households contributes to hunger and malnutrition among members of such households. Congress further finds that increased utilization of food in establishing and maintaining adequate national levels of nutrition will promote the distribution in a beneficial manner of the Nation’s agricultural abundance and will strengthen the Nation’s agricultural economy, as well as result in more orderly marketing and distribution of foods. To alleviate such hunger and malnutrition, a food stamp program is herein authorized which will permit low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet through normal channels of trade by increasing food purchasing power for all eligible households who apply for participation.

(Pub. L. 88–525, § 2, Aug. 31, 1964, 78 Stat. 703; Pub. L. 91–671, § 1, Jan. 11, 1971, 84 Stat. 2048; Pub. L. 95–113, title XIII, § 1301, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 958.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1977—Pub. L. 95–113 substituted “a more nutritious diet” for “a nutritionally adequate diet” as the object of the program.

1971—Pub. L. 91–671 provided for cooperation in utilization of Nation’s abundance of food by other agencies, struck out “to the maximum extent practicable” before “to safeguard the health”, enunciated finding that limited food purchasing power of low-income households contributes to hunger and malnutrition, and substituted “promote the distribution” for “will tend to

cause the distribution” and authorization of a program (to alleviate hunger and malnutrition) which will permit low-income households to purchase a nutritionally adequate diet through normal channels of trade for prior authorization of a program (to effectuate policy of Congress and purposes of this chapter) which will permit such households to receive a greater share of Nation’s abundance of food.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1977 AMENDMENT

Section 1301 of Pub. L. 95–113 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Oct. 1, 1977.

#### SHORT TITLE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107–171, title IV, § 4001, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 305, provided that: “This title [enacting section 3007 of this title and section 1161 of Title 2, The Congress, amending sections 1431e, 2012, 2014 to 2017, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2025 to 2028, 2031, 2034, 2036, and 7508 of this title, sections 1612, 1613, and 1631 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality, and sections 1755, 1758, 1760, 1769, and 1786 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, repealing section 2033 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 612c, 2014 to 2016, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2025, 2026, 2028, 2034, 2036, and 3171 of this title, section 1161 of Title 2, section 1612 of Title 8, and sections 1755, 1758, 1769, and 1786 of Title 42, and amending provisions set out as a note under section 612c of this title] may be cited as the ‘Food Stamp Reauthorization Act of 2002’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106–171, § 1, Feb. 11, 2000, 114 Stat. 3, provided that: “This Act [amending section 2016 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 2016 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Electronic Benefit Transfer Interoperability and Portability Act of 2000’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103–225, § 1, Mar. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 106, provided that: “This Act [amending sections 2012, 2014 to 2016, 2018, and 2026 of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under section 2012 of this title, and repealing provisions set out as notes under sections 2015 and 2016 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Food Stamp Program Improvements Act of 1994’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103–66, title XIII, § 13901(a), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 672, provided that: “This chapter [chapter 3 (§§ 13901–13971) of title XIII of Pub. L. 103–66, amending sections 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020 to 2023, 2025, 2026, and 2028 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 2025 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Mickey Leland Childhood Hunger Relief Act’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101–624, title XVII, § 1701, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3783, provided that: “This title [enacting section 2032 of this title, amending sections 1431, 1431e, 2012, 2014 to 2018, 2020 to 2022, 2024 to 2028, 3175, and 3175e of this title, section 6109 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code, and sections 405 and 9904 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 612c, 2012, 2014, 2020, 2025, and 2028 of this title and section 1751 of Title 42, and amending provisions set out as notes under sections 612c and 2012 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Mickey Leland Memorial Domestic Hunger Relief Act’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1988 AMENDMENTS

Pub. L. 100–435, § 1(a), Sept. 19, 1988, 102 Stat. 1645, provided that: “This Act [amending sections 2012, 2014 to 2017, 2020 to 2023, 2025, and 2026 of this title, section 713a–14 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, and sections 1761, 1766, 1773, and 1786 of Title 42, The Public Health